

## *Report card overhaul bill introduced*

As previously reported, Rep. Mike Duffey (R-Worthington) has in recent weeks convened a large group of diverse stakeholders to discuss how best to overhaul state report cards, which he believes do not accurately portray school and district performance.

Last month, Duffey introduced H.B. 591, which calls for the creation of a new state report card system to assess public districts and schools beginning in the 2018-2019 school year. The new system would not use letter grades, but rather would feature a “dashboard” displaying information and allowing for comparisons between districts.



The new report card would feature seven performance measures: state test results; graduation rates; student growth; gap closing for vulnerable populations; third-grade reading; college- or career-readiness; and, enrichment and support. The Ohio Department of Education would be required to include the most recent five-year trend data associated with each measure.

The bill would require that the methodology used to calculate the student growth – or value-added – measure allow for the results to be replicated and validated by districts and schools.

The legislation also calls for the addition of two categories of students to existing subgroups for which data on achievement and progress must be reported: students from military families; and, students who are homeless.

The Buckeye Association of School Administrators, Ohio Association of School Business Officials and Ohio School Boards Association played a key role in drafting the bill and all three support it. Various charter school representatives and lobbyists have been among the participants in interested party meetings coordinated by Rep. Duffey.